

From: Carlos S. Del Castillo
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 8:20am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Department of Justice,

I am writing to you to express my total disapproval at the way that this case is being handled by your department.

I am a Manager of Information Technology, for a small firm and was wrongfully believing that now that my government has stepped into this fray, my rights as a consumer and an American would be protected.

Apparently we must change our name to United States of Microsoft. I cannot understand how your organization can go from insisting that the Microsoft organization is broken up to a settlement that reminds me of swiss cheese.

Everything I have read so far, shows me how this administration has basically told your department to go easy on Microsoft. How can I come to this conclusion? Pretty simple, prior to our new President taking office, your office was seeking the breakup of the company and would not settle for anything so 'slap on the wrist' as what your seeking now.

Making Microsoft a legal monopoly would only enhance their ability to squash competition. Have you forgotten that they have been reprimanded before and like a small child they returned to their previous practices within months. Your job is to protect us, the American citizen. I understand that you also must consider the right of the corporation, but this should never be at the expense of the consumer.

If your looking for examples of how Microsoft believes the technology world should function, just look at their recent activities with regards to Linux. First they begin by releasing to the public outright lies and scaring programmers into believing that using Linux or free software will allow everyone to use their software free of charge. When that didn't give them the results they were looking for, they then made it illegal for a programmer to use any Microsoft product to create free software. Now they are attempting in making it illegal for a programmer to release software free of charge (see the recent changes to UCITA).

Microsoft has not been known to advance technology but actually to hold technology back. If their is a product that is better than what they currently offer, their general response is either to purchase the company or give away their version until the competitor goes belly up.

I do not feel that the remedies proposed in your settlement go far enough to protect the American consumer. You should return to the pre-Bush proposals, break the company up into different entities so that

the people of America are given the choice to decide whether they want Microsoft or not. I fear that if we continue in this direction, we will end up not only isolated from the rest of the World, but a country that technologically speaking belongs to a corporation.

Sincerely

Carlos S. Del Castillo